

Remarks

Applicants concur with the Examiner's statement of claim disposition at lines 4 and 6 of the Office Action.

In paragraph 2 of the Office Action, claim 21 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, ¶ 1. The Examiner's observations are well taken. Claim 21 has been amended so that it now is in compliance.

In paragraph 4 of the Office Action, claims 11-18 & 22 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Barberis (U.S. 4,905,511).

As amended, claim 11 calls for the insert panel to have "a characterizing topography having a finish selected from the group consisting of a vinyl, a metallic, and a wood grain-like finish . . ." In contrast, the '511 reference discloses ". . . a rigid substrate 9, normally of Masonite or similar material . . . the covering 6 . . . comprises a layer of soft material, such as wadding or the like, to which is heat-welded a layer of natural or synthetic fabric . . ." '511 patent, 3:1-6.


Additionally, as defined, the substrate is flexible so that it may conform with the area to which it becomes affixed. In contrast, the flat panel 5 of the '511 patent discloses a rigid substrate. *Id.*, 3:1.

Claims 12-18 incorporate the limitations of claim 11 and rise or fall therewith. Claim 22 is now canceled, many of its limitations now appearing in claim 11.

All formal and substantive requirements for patentability now appear to have been met such that it seems appropriate to request a Notice of Allowability.

Respectfully submitted,

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